



THE BREAKWALL

USCGC HALIBUT (WPB-87340)

Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2008

Inside this Month

- ▶ **HALIBUT Crew Profile**
- ▶ **San Diego Patrol**
- ▶ **Pan Am Clipper 944**
- ▶ **Chef's Recipe of the Month**

SN Brandon Blackwell pictured in HALIBUT's engine room during a damage control drill.

Photo by: MKC TIM PETTENENGIL

Greetings

Friends,

As fiscal year 2008 approaches its end (fiscal year 2009 begins 01 October), I can say we've had quite a busy and productive year. The year included several high profile Search And Rescue, Law Enforcement, and Homeland Security Missions (all highlighted in past newsletter editions!). The performance, professionalism, and effort of the crew has been outstanding and I'm proud of every one of them as HALIBUT's high standard could not have been achieved without them. Additionally, we most certainly appreciate everyone who kindly supported our people, missions, and morale program.

September's work highlighted a patrol to San Diego's waters. Thank you for taking the time to read the newsletter and thanks for the continued support!

Best Regards,
LTJG Paul Miller
Commanding Officer



Congratulations to FA William Irby for earning his sea service ribbon!

HALIBUT CREW PROFILE

SN Justin Pope

Age: 25

Hometown: **Camarillo, CA**

Favorite Part of Job: Law Enforcement and Search and Rescue Missions.

Career Aspirations: Be assigned eventually to a Coast Guard Marine Safety and Security Team (MSST). Pursue a civilian career in Law Enforcement at the expiration of enlistment.



HALIBUT Morale



CGC HALIBUT'S Morale Fund contributes directly to the Morale, Wellness, and Recreation (MWR) of the crew. Unit ball caps and T-Shirt sales contribute directly to this fund. If anyone is interested in supporting the morale program with either a private donation or through hat/t-shirt sales, please contact:

Paul.J.Miller@uscg.mil

SEE BACK PAGE FOR ORDER FORM

A Little Coast Guard History

DID YOU KNOW? OTTO GRAHAM:

Football Hall of Fame Member and Coast Guard Captain?

In 1959, thanks to long time pal George Steinbrenner's recommendation, Otto accepted the Athletic Director and football coaching position at the United States Coast Guard Academy in New London, Conn. Appointed a reserve Commander by President Kennedy, and later Captain by LBJ, Otto led the academically selected Bears to an undefeated season in '63, culminating in a Tangerine Bowl loss to Western Kentucky.

Source: <http://www.ottograham.net/>

Football Hall of Famer CAPT Otto Graham at the US Coast Guard Academy.

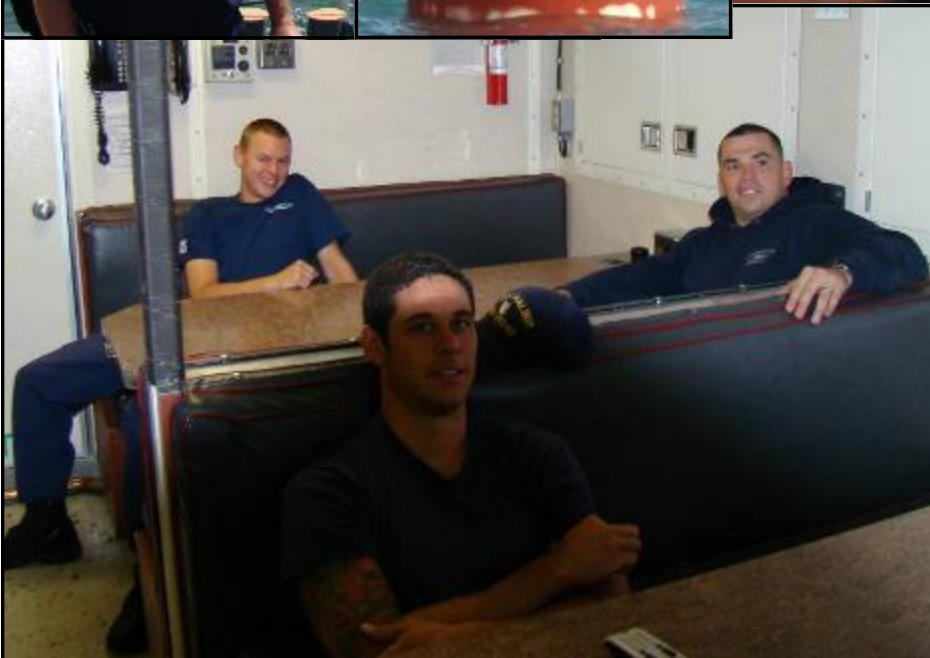


Patrolling Sector San Diego's AOR

HALIBUT spent September in Sector San Diego's AOR, enjoying new scenery and different aspects for her missions. (clockwise) Pyramid Cove San Clemente Island at dusk, LTJG Miller catches a blue shark, PO Morton drives the ship, FS2 Mulford makes "sweet and sour pork" for dinner, a damage control drill, the cutter moored with San Diego skyline in the background.



ON PATROL



GUNSHOOT!



US Navy Submarine Escort



DISASTER AT SEA: PAN AM CLIPPER #944

The following is a letter written by RD3 Wayne Smith on November 15th, 1957

Today ended the week-long search for the remains of the Pan Am Clipper 944. Today 19 of the 44 bodies and wreckage of the aircraft were found in an area 11 by 3 square miles. With two destroyers, two Coast Guard Cutters, and an aircraft carrier searching a 100-mile square area.

The search started one week ago, November 7th. While assuming ocean station November our ship, CGC Minnetonka made radio contact with Clipper 944 at approximately 3:30 PM. At this time Clipper 944's flight information was received and a radar plot, course, speed check, and continuous radio beacon were given to 944 on request. Approximately 34 minutes after radio contact with our vessel, 944 radioed in his position report to Honolulu. That was their last radio transmission received. Some three hours later at 6:04 PM the 4 to 8 watch received an int qua: "Have you heard any news of Clipper 944 from Honolulu?" We then radioed in the report that Clipper 944 was over ocean station at 3:30 PM. At 9:00 PM after 944's ETA was well overdue at Honolulu our vessel started its search following on the same course that 944 was on when they passed over station. All aircraft en route to the mainland were notified to be on the lookout for 944 and many aircraft dropped to 1500 feet to search the surface along their way. The following morning Navy, Air Force, and Pan Am planes were out searching for the downed aircraft. Several aircraft reported in to our ship and were vectored to various search patterns. The most systematic of these being the creeping line search using several aircraft and our ship as a reference point. With this search method employed for the next two days several thousand square miles were methodically searched. During this time aircraft searching reported seeing oil slicks, wreckage, floating remains of the aircraft and even life rafts floating. After checking each and every report all turned out with negative results. Most of the aircraft gave up the search Sunday night. Monday through Wednesday we continued our search, checking various reports of sightings of aircraft with negative results.

Thursday morning we refueled at sea from a Navy tanker then were underway to rendezvous with the Philippine Sea, two destroyers and CGC Bearing Strait to search another area. Thursday night our ship rendezvoused with the other ships and continued searching throughout the night. Friday morning helicopters from the Philippine Sea spotted wreckage and bodies floating in the 11 by 13 square mile area with the helo's marking the floating wreckage and bodies with smoke flares. The entire day was spent searching the area recovering bodies. Nineteen bodies were found and all were placed aboard the Philippine Sea. During the day our small boats recovered clothing, shirts, jackets and other debris.

Found on three of the bodies were watches that had stopped at exactly the same time, 4:27 PM. An indicator that Clipper 944 had crashed only 47 minutes from the time we received a radar plot from our station. As several of the bodies were found strapped in their seats, two of which were the Co-pilot and stewardess. It is fairly evident that the people aboard knew they were going down before it happened. As of yet the cause of 944 going down has not been determined.

Friday afternoon late at 5 PM the searching came to an end. The Philippine Sea headed back to Long Beach, the two destroyers headed back to Honolulu, and the Bering Strait remained on the search area, and our ship headed east to resume Ocean Station November.



FS2's Recipe of the Month

Cooking the Coast Guard Way

Greek Grilled Chicken with Cucumber Mint Tzatziki

2lbs Chicken Breast
2 Lemons (rested & juiced)
1c Olive Oil
3 Tbl Spn Oregano (fresh & chopped)
3 cloves garlic (minced)
Salt & Pepper to Taste

Trim breast of any fat and place in zip lock bag. Add remaining ingredient. Marinate over night. Grill over med-high heat until internal temperature reads 165 degrees.



Tzatziki

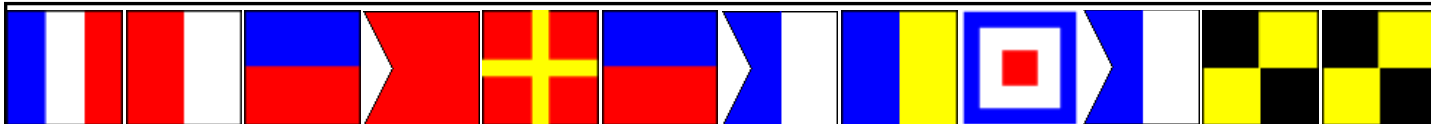
2c whole plain yogurt
1 English cucumber (shredded and strained)
2 cloves garlic
Juice of one lemon
1/4c mint fresh, chopped

Line small sieve with coffee filter, put yogurt in it, set over bowl, and refrigerate 12hrs, discard strained liquid from bowl. Mix together other ingredients in bowl and add strained yogurt. Refrigerate before serving. Serve with greek salad and pita...ENJOY!

CG HALIBUT on You Tube

To see the latest CGC HALIBUT YouTube Video, please Go to:

http://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=us+coast+guard+halibut&search_type=



Homeland Security

THE BREAKWALL

Editors: AUX Ray J. Pages
LTJG Paul Miller

USCGC HALIBUT
(WPB 87340)
13871 Fiji Way
Marina Del Rey, CA
90292
310.823.2300





HALIBUT Morale ORDER FORM



Official USCGC HALIBUT Crew T-Shirts

No. of each Size ____ XXL ____ XL ____ L ____ M

No. of T shirts ____ @ \$20 each = \$ ____

Official USCGC HALIBUT Unit Ball Caps

No. Ball Caps ____ @ \$15 each = \$ ____

Morale Donation \$ ____

Please Add \$8.95 for shipping on all orders

Make checks payable to

SECTOR LA/LB MORALE ATTN: HALIBUT

ORDER TOTAL \$ ____

Name

Address

City

State

Zip

-

Home Ph

-

-

Cell

-

-

Work Ph

-

-

Ext.

Email

Please send this order form & checks to:

HALIBUT MORALE

13871 Fiji Way

Marina Del Rey, CA 90292

Questions? 310.823.2300 or Paul.J.Miller@uscg.mil



You will receive a confirmation email when your order has been shipped